

nists have given great satisfaction at home. The hospitality and loyalty of the French Canadians are especially worthy of praise. While the city of St. John, New Brunswick has distinguished itself by unbounded hospitalities to whole regiments which will never be forgotten by the recipients of any grade.

The feeling of indignation throughout England at the infamous proceeding of attempting to destroy the harbor of Charleston has not the least degree subsided and is perhaps the most unfortunate, as it is most undoubtedly the most wicked and foolish act of which the American Government has been guilty.

The ineffectiveness of the blockade continues to be spoken of, but according to present appearances, the whole Southern coast will very soon be in the possession of the North.

The allied expedition has now landed on the Mexican coast, and is in possession of San Juan and the adjacent country. No engagement has yet taken place, but it is not likely that the cowardly and disorganised Mexicans will make any very protracted resistance to the troops of Britain, France and Spain; though we regret to see England allied in any shape to such a country as Spain, which has very lately condemned some of its subjects to the galleys for seven years for the crime of reading the Scriptures. Such a nation is a blot not only upon our common Christianity, but upon civilisation itself. They are only a shade less criminal than the Mexicans.

It may be worthy of notice that other two magnificent steamers have been added to the Cunard fleet, which will make it still more effective. This great company particularly distinguished itself by the promptitude with which they placed their vessels at the disposal of the Government during the recent crisis.

At home Parliament has just been opened. The sympathy for the Queen on her sad bereavement is deep and universal, and the tribute paid to the late Prince Consort by Lord Palmerston in his place in Parliament was very striking, and we have no doubt true. He said that in his opinion he most deserved the name of a perfect man, if such a term can be applied to human imperfection, of any man he had ever met, and whatever subject he talked on, impressed you, by the originality and depth of his views, that you were in presence of a great as well as a good man. Such a tribute from such a man is perhaps the highest of mere earthly praise.

Her Majesty bears her great loss with Christian fortitude, but is said to live in the greatest retirement, and to find her chief solace in cherishing the memory of his worth, and thinking how she may best carry out the lofty intentions of a noble and well-spent life.

A fearful accident has happened at one of the great collieries in England, by a sudden

explosion of fire-damp burying between 2 and 300 human beings in an instant under one common ruin. All perished notwithstanding the most heroic efforts at deliverance. Her Majesty has expressed the deepest sympathy for the widows and orphans created by this dreadful tragedy and British benevolence has already subscribed £25,000 for their relief. This is by far the most fatal of the many colliery accidents that ever happened in England.

What is called the Windham Case has been engaging much temporary attention at home, from the fact of the attempt of the relations of a young man endeavoring to make him out insane, in consequence of prodigal waste of his means in reckless profligacy. The attempt has failed, but will cost this foolish young man, it is said, more than £60,000—a large sum for defending a law case, and a scandal to English law.

In Nova Scotia at present, not even politics are of a very exciting character. Trade continues depressed and money scarce, but it is to be hoped that a marked improvement will be felt during Spring, and that the new gold fields will give a decided impulse to Provincial prosperity.

In another part of the *Record* will be found a notice of the death of the Rev. Dr. McGilivray—the father of the Presbytery of Pictou. This christian soldier has fallen at his post while yet in the autumn of his years. He has left behind him a name ever to be held in reverence by all good men. An example at once of high principle and unwavering firmness in the hour of temptation and trial—he has had his reward. He laboured long and he laboured hard. During 30 years and upwards he broke the bread of life among his countrymen—scattered over a wide and thinly peopled country. For weary years, amidst the summer's heat and the winter's cold, he travelled from station to station, ministering to eight or ten congregations—teaching and encouraging—in season and out of season. Labouring for years, alone—a faithful and self-denying missionary of our Church. His voice is hushed, but his labours live, and will be his best and most enduring monument.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Conversation between Duncan and the Elder in our next.

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All communications intended for publication to be addressed to John Costley, Pictou Academy; letters on business to be addressed to Mr. William Jack.

Printed and published for the proprietors, on the first Saturday of each month, by SIMON H. HODGKES, Standard Office, Pictou.